

Monitoring the Effectiveness of Retrofits

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Make sure that the retrofits have been effective at saving energy, water or costs, depending on their purpose. The information about the savings from the retrofits can be used to inform the residents of the building to encourage future potential retrofits, to encourage other similar buildings to implement retrofits and to see whether the savings are substantial enough to direct the saved costs to other building projects.

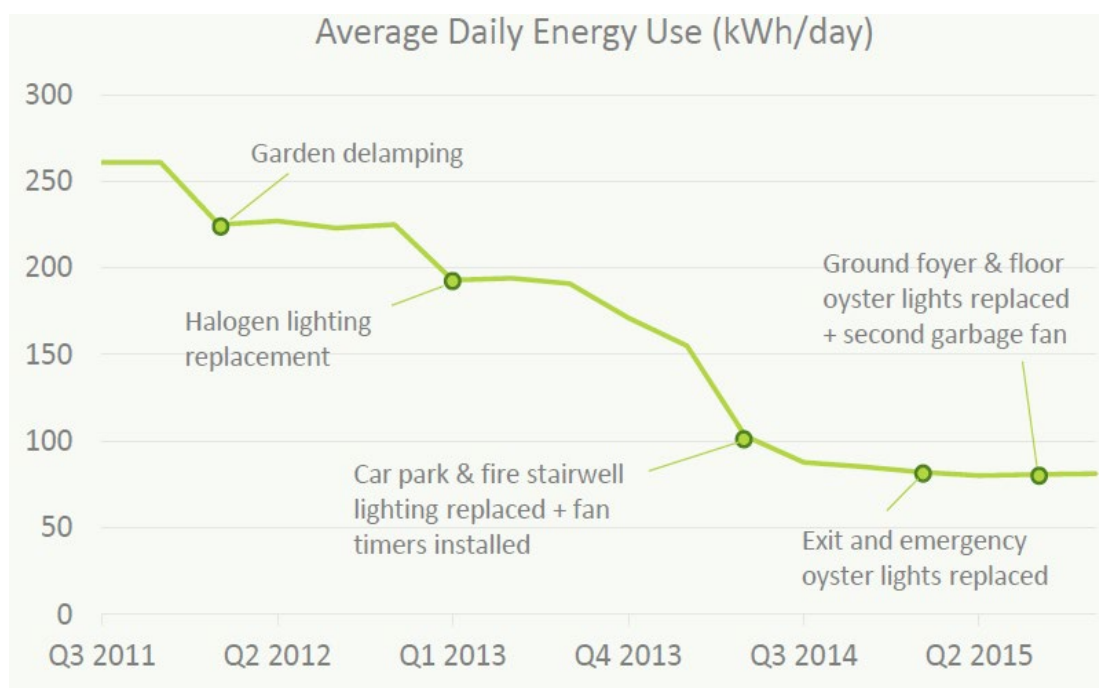


Figure 1: Excerpt from Wattblock Energy Progress Assessment - decrease in energy consumption with each retrofit by quarter (Source: Wattblock 2015)

The effectiveness of the retrofits can be determined by ongoing monitoring of energy, water and other resource usage. Monitoring usage can also reveal if the savings are lower than expected, and help to isolate the problem. To effectively monitor the energy or water savings of your building, you need to have the appropriate electricity and water meters. The data from these meters is essential for water and electricity audits, and establishing where consumption is greatest. If you are considering installing a smart meter, contact your electricity retailer. After 1

December your electricity retailer will be responsible for organising any new or replacement meter. From this time any new meters for homes and small businesses will be a smart meter. Learn more about this change under [Power of Choice](#).

To effectively monitor your building's usage, you should:

- Consider the type of electricity and water meters you have in your building, and whether installing a [smart meter](#) might be an option for you
- Keep data from all electricity and utilities bills, with the help of your building manager or sustainability consultant where available
- Undertake annual [water usage](#) and [energy audits](#) from experts and check against Sydney Water benchmarks. You could also time an annual leakage check with the fire inspections to get access to private lots.
- Consider purchasing [user-friendly monitoring software](#), that will visualise your usage data in an easy-to-read made, or to highlight areas that need greater attention. The data visualisations can be used to [report back to your building](#) residents about the savings from retrofits.

Regularly check warranties and maintenance schedules to strategically plan for likely equipment breakdowns. Breakdowns provide an opportunity to replace inefficient equipment. You can do your research before the breakdown event, so you can replace the current equipment with efficient equipment straightaway.

Additional Resources:

- [Electricity Basics, Green Strata](#)
- [Know What Your Water Costs, Green Strata](#)